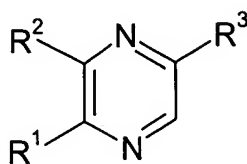


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



I

wherein R^1 and R^2 independently represent phenyl, thienyl or pyridyl, each of which is independently optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z; Z represents a C_{1-8} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, hydroxy, halo, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethylthio, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethylsulphonyl, nitro, mono or di C_{1-3} alkylamido, C_{1-3} alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-3} alkylsulphonyloxy, C_{1-3} alkoxycarbonyl, carboxy, cyano, carbamoyl, mono or di C_{1-3} alkyl carbamoyl, sulphamoyl, acetyl, an aromatic heterocyclic group, optionally substituted by halo, alkyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy, or Z represents and a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8-membered heterocyclic group containing one or more heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more C_{1-3} alkyl ~~groups~~, hydroxy, fluoro, benzyl or an amino group $-NR^xR^y$ in which R^x and R^y independently represent H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^3 represents a group of formula $(CH_2)_nCOOR^7$ in which n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and R^7 represents a C_{4-12} alkyl group, a C_{3-12} cycloalkyl group or a $(C_{3-12}$ cycloalkyl) C_{1-3} alkyl- group each of which is optionally substituted by one or more of the following: a C_{1-6} alkyl, ~~group~~; fluoro, amino or hydroxyl group, or R^7 represents a group $-(CH_2)_a$ phenyl in which a is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and the phenyl group is optionally substituted by one or more groups

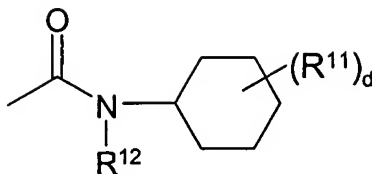
represented by Z which may be the same or different or R^7 represents a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of the ~~of the~~ following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen; wherein the heterocyclic group is optionally substituted by one or more C_{1-3} alkyl ~~groups~~, C_{1-3} acyl ~~groups~~, hydroxy, amino or benzyl groups; or

R^3 represents a group of formula $-(CH_2)_o-O-(CH_2)_p-R^8$ in which o represents an integer 1, 2, 3 or 4, and p represents an integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and R^8 represents a C_{1-12} alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more of the following: a C_{1-6} alkyl, ~~group~~; fluoro, hydroxy, or an amino group $-NR^xR^y$ in which R^x and R^y independently represent H or C_{1-4} alkyl; or R^8 represents phenyl optionally independently substituted by one or more Z groups or R^8 represents an aromatic heterocyclic group or a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of ~~one the~~ the following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen wherein each of these rings is optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z which may be the same or different; or

R^3 represents a group of formula $-(CH_2)_qR^9$ in which q is 2, 3 or 4 and R^9 represents a C_{3-12} cycloalkyl group, phenyl, an aromatic heterocyclic group or a saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8membered heterocyclic group containing one or more of ~~one the~~ the following: oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen wherein each of these rings is optionally substituted by one or more groups represented by Z which may be the same or different; or

R^3 represents a group of formula $-(CH_2)_m-O-(CO)-R^{10}$ in which m represents an integer 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and in which R^{10} represents a C_{1-12} alkyl group optionally substituted by one or more fluoro, hydroxy, or amino groups or R^{10} represents a group of formula $-(CH_2)_qR^9$ in ~~which q and R^9 are as previously described~~; or

R^3 has the following formula:



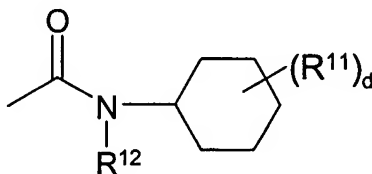
wherein R^{11} represents hydroxy, fluoro, carboxy, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group or an amino group $-NR^xR^y$ in which R^x and R^y independently represent H or C_{1-4} alkyl;

d is 1, 2 or 3; [[,]]

R^{12} represents H or a C_{1-3} alkyl group; and [[,]]

R^3 represents a group of formula $CONH-R^z$, in which R^z is a piperidinyl ring substituted by a C_{1-6} alkanoyl group or R^3 represents a group $-COG$ in which G is a dihydroindole or a dihydroisoindole, linked through nitrogen to the carbonyl, and or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt salts thereof.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 has the following formula:



~~R^{11} represents hydroxy, fluoro, carboxy, a C_{1-6} alkoxycarbonyl group or an amino group $-NR^*R^y$ in which R^* and R^y independently represent H or C_{1-4} alkyl;~~

~~d is 1, 2 or 3;~~

~~R^{12} represents H or a C_{1-3} alkyl group, and or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt salts thereof.~~

3. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R^1 and R^2 each represent phenyl independently optionally substituted by one or more chloro.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R³ represents C₄₋₁₂alkoxycarbonyl.
5. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R³ represents a benzyloxymethyl group optionally substituted by Z in the phenyl ring of the ~~benzyl~~ benzyloxymethyl group.
6. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R³ represents a group C(O)O-Het wherein Het is piperidino, morpholino or pyrrolidino.
7. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 3 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R¹ and R² each represent 4-chlorophenyl.
8. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 2 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein d is 1 and R¹¹ is hydroxyl, amino or a C₁₋₆alkoxycarbonyl group.
9. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 2 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein d is 2 and R¹¹ is F and both ~~fluores~~ occurrences of R¹¹ are attached to the same carbon ~~on the cyclohexyl ring~~.
10. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 2 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein R¹² is H.
11. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the aromatic heterocyclic group is furyl, pyrrolyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyridyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl or 1,3,5-triazenyl.
12. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the aromatic heterocyclic group is pyrrolyl, thienyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl or pyridyl.

13. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8membered heterocyclic group is tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, pyrrolidinyl, morpholinyl, piperidinyl or piperazinyl,

14. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the saturated or partially unsaturated 5- to 8membered heterocyclic group is tetrahydrofuran-3-yl, tetrahydropyran-4-yl, pyrrolidin-3-yl, morpholino, piperidino, piperidin-4-yl or piperazin-1-yl.

15. (currently amended) A compound selected from ~~one or more of the following~~:

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(cis-2-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide,

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(trans-2-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide,

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide,

5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-(4,4-difluorocyclohexyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide,

N-(1-acetylpiperidin-3-yl)-5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide,

Tert-butyl 5,6-bis(4-chlorophenyl)pyrazine-2-carboxylate,

5,6-Bis (4-chlorophenyl)-pyrazine-2-yl]-(1,3-dihydro-isoindol-2-yl)-methanone,

2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-5- {[(4-fluorobenzyl)oxy]methyl} pyrazine, or

2,3- bis(4-chlorophenyl)-5-[(piperidine-1-yloxy)carbonyl]pyrazine, and

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~salts~~ thereof.

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of claim 1 ~~formula I, as defined in any of the claims 1-15~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) A method of treating obesity, psychiatric disorders, psychotic disorders, schizophrenia and bipolar disorders, anxiety, anxio-depressive disorders, depression, cognitive disorders, memory disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, anorexia, bulimia,

attention disorders, epilepsy, and related conditions, neurological disorders, neurological disorders, Parkinson's Disease, Huntington's Chorea and Alzheimer's Disease, immune, cardiovascular, reproductive and endocrine disorders, septic shock, diseases related to the respiratory and gastrointestinal system, and extended abuse, addiction and/or relapse indications, comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a formulation of claim 17 ~~formula I according to any of the claims 1-15~~ to a patient in need thereof.

20. (currently amended) A method for compound as defined in any of the claims 1-15 for use in the treatment of obesity comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a formulation of claim 17 to a patient in need thereof.